



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention  
on Environmental Impact Assessment  
in a Transboundary Context

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention  
on Environmental Impact Assessment in  
a Transboundary Context serving as the  
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on  
Strategic Environmental Assessment

### Implementation Committee

#### Forty-first session

Geneva, 13–16 March 2018

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda

## Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-first session

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on  
Tuesday, 13 March 2018\***

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- \* There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Members of the Committee and observers are therefore requested to register online at least two weeks before the start of the meeting through the following link:  
<https://www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=b8Gpax> (the use of the Internet Explorer browser is recommended). In case of difficulty, please refer to the online user manual (<https://www2.unece.org/wiki/display/OMR/Online+Meeting+Registration+Guidelines>) or contact the secretariat by email ([anelia.rambosson@unece.org](mailto:anelia.rambosson@unece.org)). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva's Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see map and other practical information available from the Economic Commission for Europe website at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>). In case of difficulty, please contact the Convention secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 4128.

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## **I. Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Follow-up to decision VI/2.
3. Submissions.
4. Committee initiative.
5. Information gathering:
  - (a) Convention matters;
  - (b) Protocol matters.
6. Review of implementation.
7. Other business.
8. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session.

## **II. Annotations to the provisional agenda**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

1. The present provisional agenda was prepared by the secretariat to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in agreement with the Implementation Committee Chair, in accordance with rule 9 of the Implementation Committee's operating rules.<sup>1</sup> The Implementation Committee under the Convention and the Protocol will be invited to adopt its agenda as set out herein.

### **2. Follow-up to decision VI/2**

2. Discussion under agenda item 2 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.

3. Further to its fortieth session (Geneva, 5–7 December 2017), the Committee is expected to continue to follow up on decision VI/2<sup>2</sup> of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention regarding Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Ukraine with a view to preparing a revised text of draft decision VII/2 for the consideration of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its “intermediary” session.<sup>3</sup> It is also expected to decide on the final format of that draft decision.

4. The Committee will invite the delegation of Ukraine for informal consultations in relation to the Danube-Black Sea Deep-Water Navigation Canal in the Ukrainian Sector of the Danube Delta (Bystroe Canal Project). In particular, Ukraine will be invited to provide its views on the draft road map prepared by the Committee to assist Ukraine in addressing

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<sup>1</sup> The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention adopted the Committee's operating rules through decision IV/2 (see ECE/MP.EIA/10), and later amended them through decisions V/4 (see ECE/MP.EIA/15) and VI/2 (see ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1, annex II). A consolidated version is available on the Committee web page (see [http://www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/implementation\\_committee.html](http://www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/implementation_committee.html)).

<sup>2</sup> See ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1 and Corr.1.

<sup>3</sup> See ECE/MP.EIA/23-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7, para. 27.

its persistent non-compliance with the Convention and discuss the time frame for its implementation.<sup>4</sup> The Committee will then consider the matter and, in absence of the Committee member from Ukraine, it will proceed with revising draft decision VII/2 concerning the Bystroe Canal Project.<sup>5</sup>

### **3. Submissions**

5. Discussions under agenda item 3 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.

6. The Committee will examine any submissions by Parties received since the Committee's previous session.

### **4. Committee initiative**

7. Discussion under agenda item 4 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 of the operating rules.

8. The Committee will continue the consideration of its initiative on the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in accordance with the Committee's structure and functions and the procedures for the review of compliance,<sup>6</sup> and the Committee's operating rules. The Committee is expected to review and revise the specific parts of draft decision VII/2 regarding the United Kingdom (paras. 69–72), taking into account the information to be provided by the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Ireland in advance of the session.

### **5. Information gathering**

9. Discussion under agenda item 5 will not be open to observers, except if invited by the Committee.

#### **(a) Convention matters**

10. The Committee will continue consideration of information it has gathered regarding the extension of the lifetime of reactors at the Borssele nuclear power plant in the Netherlands, the Doel and Tihange nuclear power plants in Belgium, the Dukovany nuclear power plant in Czechia, the Santa Maria de Garoña nuclear power plant in Spain and the Rivne, South Ukrainian, Zaporizhia and Khelmnitskiy nuclear power plants in Ukraine.

11. The Committee is also expected to continue consideration of the information-gathering cases regarding compliance with the provisions of the Convention by Bosnia and Herzegovina in respect of the planned activities at the Ugljevik and Stanari thermal power plants; by Spain concerning the planned construction of individual temporary storage for radioactive waste at the Almaraz nuclear power plant; and by Belarus regarding the recently adopted law on State ecological expertise, strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment.

12. Time permitting, the Committee is also expected to consider information submitted by a non-governmental organization from Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding two proposed

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<sup>4</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2017/6, para. 21.

<sup>5</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/2017/8, paras 13-28.

<sup>6</sup> See MP.EIA/2004/3, decision III/2, appendix, para. 6.

activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and by a German civil initiative regarding a proposed activity in Switzerland.

**(b) Protocol matters**

13. The Committee will continue its deliberations concerning compliance with the provisions of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment by Serbia with regard to the Serbian Energy Development Strategy and its Spatial Plan. The Committee is also expected to consider information submitted by a non-governmental organization from the Republic of Moldova regarding a programme related to hydropower development in Ukraine.

**6. Review of implementation**

14. As needed, the Committee will finalize the draft questionnaires for the sixth review of implementation of the Convention and the third review of implementation of the Protocol, taking into account possible comments from the Bureau.

15. The Committee is expected to continue its consideration of the specific issue of compliance by the European Union with the Protocol identified in the first review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2014/3).<sup>7</sup>

16. Time permitting, the Committee is also expected to consider the general and specific compliance issues identified in the fifth review of implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/25) and the second review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/9), based on proposals to be prepared by the curators in advance of the fortieth session.<sup>8</sup>

**7. Other business**

17. Members of the Committee wishing to raise other business should contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

**8. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session**

18. The Committee is expected to agree on the main decisions taken at the meeting and to confirm the date and location of its next session before the Chair formally closes the session.

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<sup>7</sup> The draft document was subsequently adopted without changes by the Meeting of the Parties at its sixth session (Geneva, 2–5 June 2014). The first review is available on the ECE website as an online publication from [http://www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/review\\_implementation.html](http://www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/review_implementation.html) and <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40641>.

<sup>8</sup> The *Fifth Review of Implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context* (ECE/MP.EIA/25) and the *Second Review of Implementation of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment* (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/9) will both be issued as official publications in the first quarter of 2018.